

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 11681 01 OF 03 072209Z

73

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 057859

O R 072142Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9202

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 11681

EXDIS

NESCO

E.O. 11652: X GDS-1

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO, US

SUBJECT: ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES AT 97TH UNESCO EXBD.

REFS: (A) PARIS 11549, (B) PARIS (SUBJECT LINE CONVERSATION
WITH NAJMAN (C) PARIS (SUBJECT: VOTING RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR ITEM 4.1.1.

1. OUR INTENSIVE SOUNDINGS WITH EXBD AND SECRE-
TARIAT REPORTED REFTELS A AND B CONFIRM THAT DG M'BOW
HAS MADE SUBSTANTIAL SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO HEAD OFF CON-
FRONTATIONS ON ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE AND TO FOCUS EXBD ON
SUBSTANTIVE UNESCO BUSINESS. WE ARE ASSURED THAT DG
STRATEGY IS TO HOLD IINE THROUGHOUT EXBD SESSION ON REL-
ATIVE "DEPOLITCIZATION" ACHIEVED AND TO EXTEND AND EX-
PAND SAME THROUGH SEPTEMBER SESSION OF EXBD AND BEYOND.
THERE IS WIDESPREAD APPREHENSION THAT THIS TENUOUS
DEPOLITCIATION" WOULD BE IMPERILED BY INADE-
QUATELY PREPARED ATTEMPTS TO PRESS NOW FOR MEASURES TO
CORRECT 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE ANTI-ISRAELI RESOLU-
TIONS. IN THIS REGARD, PRESENT LIMITS OF ACTION ARE
DEFINED VERY NARROWLY BY OUR INTERLOCUTORS TO ENCOMPASS
AT BEST AN INNOCUOUS RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING BASIC

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 PARIS 11681 01 OF 03 072209Z

PRINCIPLES. IN SUM, CONSENSUS IS CURRENT EXBD IS WRONG

TIME AND PLACE TO EXPECT CONCRETE PROGRESS BEYOND WHAT
ALREADY REGISTERED BY DG.

2. IN CIRCUMSTANCES OUTLINED ABOVE, OUR ASSESSMENT IS
THAT MOST US CAN HOPE TO ACHIEVE FROM CURRENT EXBD
SESSION IS SERIES OF MARGINAL ACTIONS IN SUM CONSTI-
TUTING MODES CITEABLE RECORD CONSISTENT WITH LONG TERM
STRATEGY FOR BASIC SOLUTION BUT STILL SHORT OF PRO-
VOKING DAMAGING COUNTER ATTACKS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ANY
ACTION PROGRAM AT THIS JUNCTURE INCLUDES REAL RISKS IN
VIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY REALITY THAT WHILE WE CANNOT WIN
ANY CONFRONTATION IN THIS EXBD ON ISRAELI ISSUE, WE
COULD END UP WITH UNHELPFUL REMANIFESTATION OF ANTI-
ISRAELI BIAS. NONETHELESS, IN LIGHT GUIDANCE DEPT EL
104317, WE PROPOSE TO VENTURE ALONG LINES SET FORTH
BELOW WITH SUCH TACTICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS MAY BE IN-
DICATED IN COURSE OF MEETING.

3. IMMEDIATE ACTION PROGRAM:

(A) WE HAVE BEEN MAKING AND SHALL CONTINUE TO MAKE
STRONG REPRESENTATIONS PRIVATELY TO EXBD MEMBERS AND
SECRETARIAT EMPHASIZING SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH WE
REGARD ANTI-ISRAELI ACTIONS OF 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE ,
AND POINTING UP THAT WE ARE PURSUING THIS MATTER IN
EXBD AND BEYOND BECAUSE OF US INTEREST IN MAINTAINING
ROLE IN VIABLE UNESCO.

(B) IN MEETING SCHEDULED WITH DG M'BOW FRIDAY AT 3:00
P.M., WE PROPOSE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO DG'S APPARENT
DESIRE TO COLLABORATE WITH US IN DEVELOPMENT AND IM-
PLEMENTATION OF RESPONSIVE LONG TERM STRATEGY ON ISRAELI
ISSUE, AND INCLUDING ACTION PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER
EXBD DIRECTED TOWARD ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL
GROUP. THIS REGARD WE WOULD ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE MAY 7
SUGGESTION TO US FROM DIRECTOR NAJMAN, THAT HE IN BE-
HALF M'BOW EXPLORE SUCH STRATEGY WITH US OFFICIALS
DURING HIS JUNE VISIT TO US FOR 7TH UNGASS PREPCOM.

(C) POTENTIAL POINT OF CONTROVERSY WILL BE THE PRO-
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 PARIS 11681 01 OF 03 072209Z

GRAMME COMMISSION'S CONSIDERATION MAY 9 AND 12 OF INVI-
TATIONS TO FOUR INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS DESCRIBED
UNDER ITEM 4.1.1. AFTER ABSTAINING ON PART OR ALL OF
TWO RESOLUTIONS WHICH DO NOT SPECIFICALLY INVOLVE
EUROPEAN OR MEDITERRANEAN REGION BUT DO INCLUDE UMBRELLA
FORMULA INVITATIONS TO THE PLO AND THE AFRICAN LIBERA-
TION MOVEMENTS, WE PLAN TO POINT UP THE PRACTICAL CON-
SEQUENCES OF GENERAL CONFERENCE ACTION WHEN IT ADOPTED

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 11681 02 OF 03 072202Z

73

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 057650

O R 072142Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9203

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 03 PARIS 11681

EXDIS

RESOLUTION 46.1 AND REFUSED ISRAELI AFFILIATION WITH REGIONAL GROUP. WE WOULD DO THIS BY VOTING AGAINST TWO RESOLUTIONS APPROVING INVITATIONS TO ALL STATES BORDERING ON THE MEDITERRANEAN WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ISRAEL TO A MEETING IN 1975 AND A CONFERENCE IN 1976 ON RECOGNITION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND STUDIES. WE WOULD EXPLAIN THIS SERIES OF VOTES AT THE END OF THE DISCUSSION OF THE ITEM IN A BRIEF STATEMENT UNDERLINING THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE PRACTICAL EFFECTS OF 18TH GEN CONF'S REFUSAL TO AMEND RESOLUTION 46.1 AND THE PURPOSES OF UNESCO, TAKING CARE NOT TO LAY ANY BLAME FOR THE FAILURE TO INCLUDE ISRAEL IN THE LIST OF INVITEES AT THE DOOR OF M'BOW. (REFTEL C DETAILS RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATEMENT.) DESPITE OUR INTENTION OF SPEAKING AT END OF ITEM, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT PROPOSED NEGATIVE VOTES WITH EXPLANATION CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE ISOLATED AND COULD BE PERCEIVED BY SOME HERE AS RE-OPENING THE ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES OF THE LAST UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE. AS SUCH, THIS APPROACH INVOLVES CALCULATED RISK OF ELICITING HARSH ARAB REACTION JUSTIFIED IN ARAB EYES BY VIEW THAT US HAD NOT RESPECTED TACIT TRUCE ON THESE ISSUES. AS OUR SOUNDINGS SUGGEST, ARABS MAY FEEL THEY HAVE GONE AS FAR AS THEY CAN TO ACCOMMODATE DGM'BOW AND GENERAL DESIRE TO AVOID

CONTRONTATION BY BACKING OFF FROM INSCRIBING PLO OBSERVER MISSION ISSUES ON THIS BOARD'S AGENDA. EXTREMISTS MIGHT WELCOME ANY EXCUSE TO REVIVE PLO ISSUE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 PARIS 11681 02 OF 03 072202Z

(D) WE SHALL URGE UPON M'BOW THE DESIRABILITY OF SOMETHING POSITIVE IN THE WAY OF REAFFIRMING UNESCO'S COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO FULL PARTICIPATION OF ALL STATES IN THE FORM OF A RESOLUTION WHICH MIGHT EMERGE WHEN REPORT OF PROGRAM COMMISSION IS PRESENTED TO EXBD ON MAY 21. WE HAVE IN MIND SOMETHING ALONG LINES OF PARA 3(B) OR (C) OF STATE 104317. WE SHALL EMPHASIZE TO M'BOW THAT THE MORE EXPLICIT THE LANGUAGE THE MORE USEFUL THE EFFECT IN THE US.

HAVING ALREADY BROACHED THIS APPROACH TO THE SAVVY VAN USSEL AND HIGHLY COMPETENT NAJMAN WITH INCONCLUSIVE RESULTS (PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF VERY LIMITED TIME FOR PREPARATION, AND FOLLOW THROUGH AT THIS EXBD), WE SEE NO REPEAT NO PROSPECT OF SUCCESS UNLESS TACTIC RECEIVES DG'S BLESSING. IN ACCORDANCE DEPT. INSTRUCTIONS WE SHALL NOT REPEAT NOT INTRODUCE OR SUPPORT SUCH A RESOLUTION WITHOUT REASONABLE ASSURANCE OF SUFFICIENT VOTES TO PASS. AS TO APPROACHES IN CAPITALS, WE DETECT NO REPEAT NO ENTHUSIASM AMONG EVEN OUR WESTERN ALLIES FOR ISRAELI ISSUE AT THIS MEETING. WHILE DEPT. MAY PERCEIVE SOME POINT IN GOING TO CAPITALS FOR RECORD, THIS UNLIKELY TO SERVE USEFUL PURPOSE HERE AND NOW PENDING EMERGENCE MINIMAL AGREED TEXT AND SPONSORSHIP OTHER THAN OUR OWN WHICH WE ARE ASSURED WOULD BE KISS OF DEATH IN CIRCUMSTANCES.

(E) WE ALSO PLAN TO WORK TO STRENGTHEN DG'S "DEPOLITICIZATION" OF UNESCO BY EXPRESSING TO HIM US GRATIFICATION AT HIS SUCCESS IN (A) DELETING FROM AGENDA VOLATILE ITEM 9.5 CONCERNING EDUCATION IN ISRAELI OCCUPIED AREAS AND (B) FINESSING SPECIFIC RECENT PLO MOVES TO PARTICIPATE IN EXBD AS REGULAR OBSERVER, TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION TO UNESCO AND TO SEND SPECIAL DELEGATION TO THIS EXBD SESSION. WE SHALL OF COURSE UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO HIS CONTINUING ALONG THESE LINES AND ASSURE HIM OF OUR SUPPORT IN THIS ENDEAVOR. SINCE US HAS MADE PARTICULAR POINT OF "DEPOLITICIZATION" OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, DEPARTMENT MIGHT FIND IT HELPFUL TO ENCOURAGE WHENEVER POSSIBLE GREATER APPRECIATION BY US PRESS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 PARIS 11681 02 OF 03 072202Z

THAT THIS SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED AT EXBD SESSION, PROVIDED PRESENT TRUCE NOT REPEAT NOT BROKEN.

(F) WE SHALL FOLLOW UP ON OUR INITIAL MAY 5 APPROACH TO ACTING ISRAELI EXBD REPRESENTATIVE YAPOU AND INFORM HIM ON MAY 9 THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING FIRST STEPS IN PROCESS OF ACHIEVING PROGRESS TOWARDS REVERSAL OF UNESCO ANTI-ISRAELI DECISIONS IN CONSULTATION WITH VARIOUS EXBD MEMBERS.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 11681 03 OF 03 072209Z

73

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 057803

O R 072142Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9204
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T SECTION 03 OF 03 PARIS 11681

EXDIS

4. IN ADDITION TO ELEMENTS OUTLINED IN PARA 3 ABOVE, THERE IS ALSO POSSIBILITY THAT SHARP EXCEPTION TO MEDIA CRITICISM OF UNESCO EXPRESSED BY DG M'BOW IN (PAGES ROMAN NUMERAL 16 - 17) HIS INTRODUCTION TO REPORT ON UNESCO ACTIVITIES IN 1974 (PAGES ROMAN NUMERAL 16 - 17), MAY ELICIT STATEMENTS FROM ARAB OR OTHER EXBD MEMBERS WHEN REPORT CONSIDERED BY EXBD MAY 12. SINCE M'BOW OMITTS EXPLICIT MENTION WESTERN MEDIA, BUT ARAB OR SOVIET-EE BOARD OR AFRICAN BOARD MEMBERS MAY WISH MAKE SUCH IDENTIFICATION. IF OTHER BOARD MEMBERS SHOULD ATTACK US MEDIA, WE WOULD PROPOSE TO MAKE SHORT STATEMENT IN RESPONSE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

"WE WISH TO NOTE THAT WHATEVER FEELINGS OR OBJECTIONS BOARD MEMBERS MAY HAVE REGARDING THE ACCURACY OR OBJECTIVITY OF AMERICAN PRESS TREATMENT OF THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE, THE AMERICAN PRESS AND NEWS MEDIA ARE, BY VIRTUE OF THE US CONSTITUTION, NOT SUBJECT TO CONTROL BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE US. OUR PRESS AND NEWS MEDIA ARE THEREFORE FREE TO MAKE THEIR OWN INTERPRETATIONS OF NEWS EVENTS AND ARE ANSWERABLE ONLY TO THEMSELVES IN QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ACCURACY OR BALANCE OF REPORTING. IN ANY CASE, NO ONE HERE WOULD DENY THAT CERTAIN OF THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS WERE HIGHLY DIVISIVE AND ATTRACTED MEDIA ATTENTION AS A CON-
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 PARIS 11681 03 OF 03 072209Z

SEQUENCE. WE WOULD HOPE THAT ATTENTION TO THIS QUESTION OF MEDIA TREATMENT OF UNESCO WILL NOT DETRACT DESERVED ATTENTION FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT AS A WHOLE. THIS DOCUMENT AMPLY JUSTIFIES OUR CONTINUED CONFIDENCE IN THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, AND WE FIND HIS INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT HIGHLY COMMENDABLE FOR ITS CLARITY AND CANDOR OF EXPRESSION. END QUOTE.

ABOVE PROPOSAL IS ONLY IN CONTINGENCY THAT US COMMENT REQUIRED.

5. ABOVE ACTION PROGRAM FOCUSED ON ISSUE OF ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL GROUP, SINCE WE HAVE FOUND NO RPT NO DELEGATE OR SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL WHO FORSEES ANY PROSPECT OF AMELIORATING THE ISSUE OF JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS AND LINKED PROBLEM OF DISCONTINUATION OF UNESCO FUNDING OF PROJECT IN ISRAEL IN ABSENCE OF ACTIVE COLLABORATION OF ISRAELIS.

6. DEPARTMENT ACTION REQUESTED: SINCE WE SHALL PROCEED TO FOLLOW ACTION PROGRAM OUTLINED ABOVE, UNLESS INSTRUCTED DIFFERENTLY, DEPARTMENT WILL PLEASE NOT THAT VOTING ON REGIONAL ITEMS AS PER PARAS 3C ABOVE, IS SCHEDULED AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY MAY 9, AS IS KEY MEETING WITH DG M'BOW.

7. FYI: EXBRD NOT RPT NOT IN SESSION MAY 8 BECAUSE OF FRENCH HOLIDAY, END FYI

RUSH

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CULTURAL PROPERTY, MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS11681
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750160-0941
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750573/aaaacowi.tel
Line Count: 326
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 PARIS 11549
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <01 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES AT 97TH UNESCO EXBD.
TAGS: PORG, OCON, US, XF, IS, UNESCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006